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reformers and legislators are urged to accept without unnecessary alteration, since the various items have been found by long experience to stand the test of judicial interpretation and of comprehensiveness. The author contends that it is better, wherever feasible, to work for a *housing* law to cover both the type of buildings associated with the word "tenement" and the dwelling-places of the well-to-do in the more desirable districts of cities.

Six chapters are devoted to the provisions of a model law. Chap. i gives general provisions and offers exact definitions of the terms used. Chap. ii relates to new buildings and includes regulation of light, ventilation, sanitation, and fire protection. Chap. iii is given to alterations, chap. iv to maintenance, chap. v to improvements, and chap. vi to requirements and remedies. A complete index, copious notes on the separate provisions, numerous illustrative figures, and suggestions for the use of the model law in different communities make this book useful. A good feature is the insertion of clauses detailing possible concessions in localities where peculiar circumstances require such modifications. Further, Mr. Veiller has not failed to suggest that higher standards than he has presented in the text of the law may in some cases be introduced. However, although a model law is outlined, it is not a model in the Platonic sense, for throughout the writer is governed by practical considerations drawn from intimate acquaintance with the difficulties of introducing and enforcing reasonable standards under present conditions in municipalities.

E. L. TALBERT

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO

An Introduction to the Study of Social Evolution; the Prehistoric Period. By F. STUART CHAPIN. New York: Century Co., 1913. Pp. xxii+306. \$2.00 net.

The general plan of this work may be best seen by a brief statement of its contents. The first two chapters discuss the various theories of variation, heredity, and evolution. The third takes up the origin and antiquity of man, including the embryological and paleontological evidence, with a brief outline of prehistoric times. In the next three chapters are discussed the factors regarded as influencing man's mental and moral development, i.e., association, physical environment, and social heredity. The seventh treats of the origin and classification of the various races and peoples of the globe. After discussing these various topics, which occupy about four-fifths of the book, the author takes up social organization proper and devotes the next chapter to a description

of certain phases of primitive or tribal society, such as the clan, totemism, religion, and property, as illustrated especially in the American Indians and the natives of Australia. The final chapter is an attempt to trace the main steps in the transition from tribal to civil society, with historical examples when possible. Each chapter is followed by a list of authorities on the subjects treated.

The generous scope of the book makes it necessary that the treatment of each topic be brief. The chief weakness is a lack of coherence, and of a critical estimation of the various topics and their interrelation. The last chapter especially is disappointing, as, after devoting special chapters to the factors influencing development, one would expect to see them worked into the developmental scheme, instead of the old single-line development, though the author does say that we must not think of the agricultural stage, "as *always* following upon the nomadic." Some of the theories also seem a little far-fetched, as when the neolithic culture is explained as due to conditions brought about by the advance of the ice sheet, when it is generally admitted that the latter part of the paleolithic age is postglacial. One would also like to know the authority for the statement that the food of paleolithic man was "mainly uncooked."

The diagram on p. 228 gives the Polynesians as an offshoot of the black race, which is incorrect, and also does not correspond to the text. The characteristic of kinky hair is not "more extreme" in Australia than in Africa (p. 213). The head form is given too much weight in the racial classification where it is made equally characteristic with color and hair.

Some might take exception to a number of other things, but the book on the whole gives a fairly accurate summary of the chief topics treated, and is of distinct value in showing the field to be covered, and the necessity of a broad and comprehensive knowledge in the treatment of social development.

A. B. LEWIS

FIELD MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY

Directory of Speakers on Municipal Problems.

This book suggests a program for greater New York, and is published by the Brooklyn Bureau of Charities. This admirable syllabus of lectures is very suggestive not only for the problems of New York City, but for other communities in the nation. It deserves attention.

C. R. HENDERSON

UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO